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IN presenting to the Public this first number of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICS, the editors think it advisable, in order to prevent disappointment on the part of subscribers and contributors, to state briefly the principles by which they will be guided in its management.

Although in the first instance designed to supply a want, as a medium of communication between American mathematicians, its pages will always be open to contributions from abroad, and promises of support from various foreign mathematicians of eminence have already been received.

The publication of original investigations is the primary object of the Journal. In addition to this, from time to time concise abstracts will be inserted of subjects to which special interest may attach, or which have been developed in memoirs difficult of access to American students.

Critical and bibliographical notices and reviews of the most important recent mathematical publications, American and foreign, will also form part of the plan. It is believed that many are prevented from ordering mathematical books from abroad by the uncertainty of ascertaining beforehand their real character, and thus are liable to be deprived of what might have been valuable aids to them in scientific investigation. This difficulty the editors hope to some extent to remove.

The Journal will be published in volumes of about 384 quarto pages, each volume appearing in four numbers at periods not absolutely fixed, but for the present separated as nearly as may be found practicable by intervals of three months. In order that the numbers may not differ too much in size, an article will be made, when necessary, to run on from one number to the next, as is the practice with foreign journals of a similar nature.

This is the only journal of the kind in the English language published in the quarto form, the advantages of which to reader and author of mathematical papers are too well understood to need enumeration.

The editors believe it will materially aid in fostering the study of Mathematical Science throughout this continent and they feel it their duty to state that any good which may arise from it will be in a great measure due to the enlightened liberality of the Trustees of the Johns Hopkins University who have prompted the undertaking and guaranteed a considerable portion of the pecuniary risk attendant upon it.

It is to be understood that there will be *no problem department* in the Journal, but important remarks, however brief, may be inserted as notes. Persons desirous of offering to the Public mathematical problems for solution, are recommended to send them to

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